

April 2020

On Thursday 12th March [Suprema Lex](#), the new ten year Strategy for Culture, Creativity and Place in Salford was launched at Islington Mill. The Suprema Lex title comes from Salford's motto - **'The welfare of the people is the highest law'**. An online version can be found at: www.supremalex.co.uk.

The launch was the last time many of us attended a public event - it was the day social distancing advice was first given – and there was much laughter around fumbled elbow bumps. How naive that sounds now only 6 weeks later and what a different world we are now in.

As I try to navigate our new world, I am finding the core principle of the strategy a useful reminder: 'People at the centre of everything'. The health and safety of all communities within Salford and beyond are paramount, and we are proud of the University's quick responses to action – from our **School of Health and Society** supporting the New Nightingale Hospital North West; to our Digital Media Production team from the **School of Arts and Media** facilitating the [United We Stream programme](#); and our **Business School** offering [free digital marketing webinars](#) – just three examples.

But how can we help people be 'at the centre of everything' in a world dominated by social distancing and social isolation? Working closely with artists, partners, colleagues and collaborators in the sector, both locally and internationally, we're hopeful that arts & culture can provide a sense of comfort, distraction and even a bit of hope during difficult times – finding new ways to connect, and opportunities to do things differently. I am heartened by the generosity, inventiveness and resilience encountered so far.

The Art Collection team have been busy behind the scenes, and in this newsletter we share some of our initial ideas and plans, more will follow next month. As always we love hearing from our friends and colleagues – please do keep in touch.

Keep safe,

Lindsay Taylor
Curator

News

Rediscover Salford

In March we were pleased to hear that Salford Community Leisure (on behalf of a partnership with Salford City Council, University of Salford Art Collection and The Lowry) had been awarded a £70,000 grant from Arts Council England for an 18 month, city wide programme that celebrates green spaces in Salford and marks the opening of the [RHS](#)

Bridgewater Gardens.

We are excited that this will include new artist commissions for the Collection, for emerging and mid-career practitioners. In light of Covid19 we are reworking some of the timescales and plans – more details to be announced soon.

Jackie Kay - new poetry



Jackie Kay by Claudia Alonso (2015). University of Salford Art Collection

Our Chancellor, Writer in Residence and Scottish Makar Jackie Kay has been busy writing new poems in response to the Coronavirus pandemic, capturing the thoughts, feelings and emotions of many people. The poems can all be found [on our website](#).

“This is a testing time for us all and I think taking the opportunity to be as creative as you can be and doing things differently might have some lasting and positive consequences for our whole planet.

I hope you can find some silver linings from it – like learning a new language or learning how to bake, write a poem, or make a short film. I will be writing a few poems during this crisis and I will be sharing some of these over the course of the next few weeks.”

– Professor Jackie Kay CBE

New Commissions



Anna Ridler, *Peer to Peer* at Open Eye Gallery, Liverpool. Photograph by Tabitha Jussa.

The Shanghai presentation of *Peer to Peer*, a showcase of 14 photographers from the UK and China in collaboration with Open Eye Gallery and Shanghai Centre of Photography, received over 8000 visitors and plenty of positive media stories.

Following the exhibition, we're delighted to be supporting two artists with new commissions for the collection. Chinese photographer Wu Yue is making a new series of photographs reflecting on Covid 19, whilst British artist Anna Ridler is making new work using Artificial Intelligence. Look out for more updates over Summer!

New Adelphi Exhibition Gallery

Our gallery remains closed, and our programmes postponed, until further notice. However, we're excited to be working with students from BA Graphic Design in the School of Arts and Media on a live brief to reimagine and redesign our gallery branding. Watch this space!

Opportunities

Micro-commissions - 5 x £200

**Calling all artists living, working or with a strong connections to Salford.
Deadline: Midnight 10th May 2020**

We are inviting artists to propose ideas for new content in response to our Collection and to be presented on our website. There is a fee of £200 per commission (based on 1 day of freelance work at AN rates).

We are looking for new work, that might be in written, video, photographic or visual form that adds context to artwork in [our Collection](#). This might be a reflection on a work or connection you already have with the Collection, or it could be a new interpretation,

discussion or response to an artwork or theme you admire – we are looking for original ideas and are open to suggestions.

For further information & to apply, please visit our website: [Micro-commission opportunity](#).

Virtual advice sessions

Mon 27th & Tues 28th April

Working with our colleagues in the Development team and School of Arts and Media we are offering [online advice sessions](#) to artists in or around Salford, interested in applying for ACE Emergency funds (deadline: 30th April). Whilst we are not affiliated in any way with ACE, we can help individuals work through ideas and collectively have substantial experience of writing, editing and proofing funding applications.

Sessions are available Mon 27th & Tues 28th April, between 1-4pm.
Email: artcollection@salford.ac.uk to book.

2020 -21 Graduate Scholarship Programme



Deadline: 3rd May 2020

We are delighted to announce that applications are open for our Graduate Scholarship Programme 2020/2021: a 12 month bespoke professional development programme open to all final year students (both BA and MA) from the School of Arts & Media.

The programme is an opportunity for graduating students to develop their skills and professional experience in the north west of England. The successful graduates receive up to £1000 financial support plus mentoring and resources, such as studio space, to experiment and take risks with their creative practice within a supportive framework.

The programme was created by University of Salford Art Collection and School of Arts & Media in 2014, and is run by the Art Collection with [Castlefield Gallery](#) in collaboration with our professional partners: [Hot Bed Press](#), [Islington Mill](#), [Paradise Works](#), [Mirabel](#)

[Studios](#) and [Redeye, The Photography Network](#).

The deadline for applications has been extended until **midnight on Sunday 3 May**.
Visit our website for more information & to apply: [Graduate Scholarship Application 2020](#)

Our thanks go to Castlefield Gallery for their ongoing support for the current Graduate Scholars – much of the programme has moved smoothly online.

Keep in Touch

The team are currently working from home. We're keen to hear from artists and partners to keep exploring how we can best support the sector at this time. Please feel free to get in touch to discuss your ideas and projects, or tell us what might be useful.

Email: artcollection@salford.ac.uk

Twitter: [@UoSArts](https://twitter.com/UoSArts)

We recommend:

COVID support & guidance

Both [AN](#) and [Arts Council England](#) have the most up-to-date and comprehensive advice for artists & arts organisers during COVID-19.

For local residents, the [Spirit of Salford](#) helpline/webpage offers a whole range of advice from housing/debt issues to sourcing food and emergency supplies.

Creative connections

Open Rooms #2: Separated Together

Open Eye Gallery

Tuesday 28th April, 18.00 BST [More information](#)

Launching a new prison photography programme. Live-stream discussion with artist-in-residence Hafsah Naib and Sarah Hartley from NOVUS, a rehabilitation education provider. Submit questions in advance, or join the online chat during & after.

End of the World Film Club

The Double Negative

Next discussion: Friday 1st May

Join The Double Negative ([@TheDbleNgvtve](https://twitter.com/TheDbleNgvtve)) on social media, to vote for a free online

movie to watch together - then discuss online using the hashtag #endoftheworldfilmclub

Rethink Session: Culture and Care

Redeye, The Photography Network

Wednesday 6th May 6 - 7:15pm. [More info & book online.](#)

How care might be more centrally embedded after Covid-19?

Online talks with guest speakers, plus discussion.

Remote Work: Exhibition commission opportunity.

The Grundy Gallery, Blackpool

Deadline: Friday 15th May, 17.00

An open call/commission opportunity for artists based in North West England, to create work for a group exhibition to be held at Grundy Art Gallery in the future. £1500 fee and remote support from the Grundy team. [Visit the Grundy website for full details.](#)

Fundraisers

- [Venture Arts Emergency Fund](#) - The Manchester based arts charity celebrating work by people with learning disabilities. Currently fundraising to keep connected during Covid-19.

- [Artist Support Pledge](#) - Follow the #artistsupportpledge campaign across social media to pick up limited edition works by contemporary artists.

Creating / Collecting / Collaborating